

9:00 am Worship Service

Prelude
 Welcome and Announcements
 *Call to Worship
 *Hymn *Blessed Assurance* #369
 Prayers for the People & Lord's Prayer Lisa Palmquist
 Tim Hoffman *The Old Rugged Cross Made the Difference*
 Impact of Your Generosity
 Offering Prayer
 *Doxology #95
 *Praise Song *Living Hope*
 Scripture Romans 4:1-15 Denny Enck
 Sermon The Gift You Couldn't Afford
 Hymn of Preparation: *Standing on the Promises (v.1)* #374
 Holy Communion
 *Hymn *It is Well with My Soul* #77
 Blessing
 Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Our Salem Church Family Prayer List

Samantha Enck	Jeannie	Toy Miller
Mark Blankenship	Ronald Young	Jim Messman
Marlin Ruhl	Jack & Linda Piper	Jean Daniels
Gloria Wolf	Family & Friends of Tami Buffington	

An assisted listening system is available from a smartphone application to help people to hear the service better. Download the WaveCAST Audio Receiver app and log in to the SalemGuest Wi-Fi – the password is MINISTRY. If you need assistance, please go to the sound booth.

Our entire worship service, including the Children's Message, is live-streamed and recorded. By entering the sanctuary or allowing your child to participate, you consent to being filmed. Those wishing to avoid the camera may sit in back half of the Sanctuary. Salem United Methodist Church of Manheim is not responsible for any unauthorized use of recordings by outside parties.

Welcome!

We hope our time together is a source of hope and peace.

Nursery Care is provided during worship for infants to age 4.

Prayer Requests can be written on the cards located in the lobby. Place your request in the prayer quilt near the sanctuary entrance.

Friendship Pads are in the pews. Please take the time to fill them out and pass them down the row. The information you provide helps us with attendance and to follow up with guests.

Sunday School at 10:15 am

Children (K – 4th grades) – Room 204
 Youth (5th - 12th grades) – Room 403
 Wrestling with Grace (Adult Class) – Room 406
 (Join us to go deeper reflecting on the sermon.)
 Ages and Stages (Adult Class) – Room 404

Children's Chapel - The 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, Pre-K through 4th Grade children can attend Children's Chapel after Children's Time during the morning service.

Coffee Time – Join us after the service in Fellowship Hall.

Offering Collection Boxes – If you would like to make a gift to support the mission and ministry of Salem, please place your gift in one of the offering boxes on the back walls of the Sanctuary. Offering envelopes are available in the pews for your convenience.

E-Giving Use the QR code to make a one-time gift or to set up recurring giving. Salem's e-giving provider is Nucleus Giving. If you want to support a monthly special offering, just make a note on the memo line.



Building Community One Question at a Time

A good conversation comes down to being a good listener. Listen carefully and ask follow-up questions: Try asking:

What is currently happening in your life that makes you feel happy?
 Share the question. Have fun while getting to know others a little better.

Electronic Newsletter Sign Up!

Each Friday we distribute an electronic newsletter called *Friday Friendly*. Please use this QR code to sign up or notify the Office Manager to be included.



Sunday School at Salem is the BEST!
 Last Sunday, the Children's Sunday School class studied a lesson about the miracle of Jesus feeding 5,000. The fun craft was creating fish to represent the food that fed the 5,000. Check out those smiles! We'd love to have more kiddos join us.



Youth Hangout ~ March 6th
 Come out and join the Youth as they celebrate Christ with faith, fun and food! Hours are 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Contact Alysa with any questions! youth@salemmanheim.org



March Special Collection ~ UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)
 UMCOR strengthens United Methodist response to humanitarian crises around the world through disaster and recovery, migrant and refugee support, environmental sustainability, agriculture and food security. UMCOR is usually the first to arrive at the crisis and the last to leave. 454,163 lives were directly touched through aid in 2024.

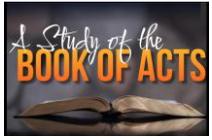
Charitable Giving Tax Update for 2026



Beginning with the 2026 taxes, many taxpayers may deduct charitable donations - even if taking the standard deduction. *Individuals: up to \$1000, *Married couples filing jointly: up to \$2000 and *Itemized deductions may apply to giving exceeding 0.5% of income. Please keep your records of gifts to Salem UMC. Annual giving statements will be provided by the church. (Please consult a tax professional for personal guidance.)



The United Women in Faith
 We collected new underwear & sweatpants for the Clay Street Shelter during the month of February. Thank you to Salem UMC for collecting 78 pairs of underwear and 42 pairs of sweatpants! Your donations are indeed a blessing to those in need.



Thursday Bible Study ~ now through March 26th
Join Pastor John for a Bible study on the Book of Acts, on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m., as we explore how the Holy Spirit still empowers the church today.



Thank you to Gail Monteleone and her great-granddaughter (Aubrey Parker) for the enjoyable visit. I certainly enjoyed the Valentine box of candy and bag of goodies. Thank you so much for thinking of me. ~ Mabel Graham



Bishop's Day in our District
Bishop Moore-Koikoi is planning to spend time in each District. Laity and clergy are invited to attend the worship service at 7pm.
March 4, 2026 ~ West District
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
(398 N Locust St, Elizabethtown, PA 17022)

Save the Date!

(Check out the Friday Friendly for details.)

March 10 – First Study Session (all) for ASP (6:30pm-8:00pm)

March 24 – Second Study Session (rookies) for ASP (6:30pm-8:00pm)

March 28 – Easter Egg Hunt (rain or shine at 10:00am)

This Week at Salem

Today, March 1

9:00 am – Worship service

10:15 am – Sunday School

Wednesday, March 4

6:15 pm – Bell Choir Practice

7:00 pm – Salem Singers Practice

Thursday, March 5

6:30 pm – Book of Acts Bible Study

Friday, March 6

6:30 pm – Youth Hangout

Church Contact Information

John Laughlin, ext 3 pastorjohn@salemmanheim.org

Church Office , ext 1 officemanager@salemmanheim.org

Keith Mitchell, ext 2.....businessmanager@salemmanheim.org

Natalie Abram children@salemmanheim.org

Alysa Merkey.....youth@salemmanheim.org

Going Deeper in “The Gift You Couldn’t Afford”

Read the following a few times:

Rom 4:1-15, Gen 15:6; Heb 11:8-12; Luke 18:9-14

Reflect on the following:

1. How does comparison (grades, sports, social media) make us feel like we have to “earn” our worth?
2. Abraham trusted God’s promise before he saw the results. Why is trusting before seeing so difficult?
3. Abraham waited years without seeing the promise fulfilled. Why is waiting so hard for us?
4. In what ways might we subtly drift into trying to “afford” what God only gives as a gift?
5. If righteousness is “credited” to us, what does that say about how God sees us when we trust Him?
6. What happens when we turn faith into a checklist instead of a relationship?
7. In Genesis 15, Abraham questions God — but he still believes. What does that teach us about doubt and faith?
8. What happens when we turn faith into a checklist instead of a relationship?
9. How does knowing God keeps promises change how we think about our future?
10. If we really believed grace is free, how would it change how we treat people who mess up?

Spiritual Challenges:

1. Trust Before You See - Choose one area where you’re anxious about the future (college, sports, friendships). Pray specifically, trusting God’s promise rather than trying to control the outcome.
2. Give Grace - Show unexpected grace to someone — especially someone who doesn’t “deserve” it. That’s how God treats us.
3. Look at the Stars - One night this week, step outside and look at the sky. Remember: God keeps promises, even when we can’t see the outcome yet.



March 1, 2026



Rev. Dr. John A. Laughlin, Sr., Pastor

Frank Rittenhouse, Organist

Terri Briskie, Accompanist

Doug Winters, Bell Director

Doug Winters, Interim Choir Director

140 N. Penn St., Manheim, PA 17545

salemmanheim.org

717-665-2331

Office Hours:

Tuesday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Wednesday 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Thursday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm